

CLAIMS

We claim:

1. A modular connector, comprising:
a housing defining a cable-receiving cavity opening at a rear of the housing, said housing comprising:
a lower wall defining a side of said cavity,
a tab at a front portion extending rearward and obliquely outward from said lower wall, and
an anti-snag member having an arcuate portion having a forward facing end at an interface between said arcuate portion and said lower wall and a free end overlying said tab to thereby close a gap between said tab and said lower wall;
an arrangement for electrically coupling a cable when received in said cable-receiving cavity to electrical contacts in a mating connector.
2. The connector of claim 1, wherein said anti-snag member includes an inner, forwardly facing surface contiguous with an outer surface of said lower wall.
3. The connector of claim 2, wherein said outer surface of said lower wall is planar.
4. The connector of claim 1, wherein said free end of said anti-snag member engages a free end of said tab.
5. The connector of claim 1, wherein said arcuate portion is concave.
6. The connector of claim 1, wherein said arcuate portion is arranged to initially project rearward from said interface between said anti-snag member and said lower wall and outward from said lower wall and then forwardly toward said tab.
7. The connector of claim 1, wherein said anti-snag member further includes a

straight portion defining said free end, said straight portion beginning at a distance from said lower wall and extending forwardly and obliquely relative to said lower wall.

8. The connector of claim 1, wherein said anti-s snag member extends only across a portion of the entire width of said lower wall.

9. The connector of claim 1, wherein said anti-s snag member is centered on said lower wall.

10. The connector of claim 1, wherein said arcuate portion of said anti-s snag member faces said cavity.

11. The connector of claim 1, wherein said anti-s snag member has a uniform width.

12. A modular connector, comprising:
a housing defining a cable-receiving cavity opening at a rear of the housing, said housing comprising:

a lower wall having a planar outer surface and defining a side of said cavity,
a tab at a front portion extending rearward and obliquely outward from said lower wall, said planar surface of said lower wall extending further rearward than said tab such that such that inward, flexing movement of said tab is limited by contact between said tab and said planar surface of said lower wall, and

an anti-s snag member projecting from said lower wall such that an inner, forwardly-facing surface of said anti-s snag member is contiguous with said planar surface of said lower wall, said anti-s snag member having a free end overlying said tab to thereby close a gap between said tab and said lower wall; and

an arrangement for electrically coupling a cable when received in said cable-receiving cavity to electrical contacts in a mating connector.

13. The connector of claim 12, wherein said anti-snap member has an arcuate portion defining a forward facing end at an interface between said arcuate portion and said lower wall, said arcuate portion being arranged to initially project rearward from said interface between said anti-snap member and said lower wall and outward from said lower wall and then forwardly toward said tab.

14. A method for forming a housing of modular connector with an anti-snap mechanism, comprising the steps of:

molding a body of dielectric material to include a cable-receiving cavity opening at a rear of the housing, a lower wall, a tab at a front portion extending rearward and obliquely outward from the lower wall, and a planar anti-snap member extending rearwardly from said lower wall; and

bending the anti-snap member forward until the anti-snap member overlies a free end of the tab.

15. The method of claim 14, wherein the step of bending the anti-snap member forward comprises the step of heating the anti-snap member.

16. The method of claim 14, wherein the anti-snap member is bent forward until the anti-snap member engages the free end of the tab.

17. The method of claim 14, wherein the anti-snap member is bent forward to form an arcuate portion defining a forward facing end at an interface between the arcuate portion and the lower wall.

18. The method of claim 17, wherein the anti-snap member is bent forward to form a straight portion adjacent the arcuate portion and defining a free end of the anti-snap member, the straight portion beginning at a distance from the lower wall and extending forwardly and obliquely relative to the lower wall.

19. The method of claim 14, wherein the body of dielectric material is molded such that the anti-snap member includes an inner, forwardly facing surface contiguous with an outer surface of the lower wall.

20. The method of claim 14, wherein the body of dielectric material is molded such that the anti-snap member extends only across a portion of the entire width of the lower wall.